

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-referenced application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for ~~In~~ a radio communication system having multiple network portions, ~~at least a first mobile node operable to communicate with a network part, the network part having a first network portion and at least a second network portion, the first network portion operated by a first network operator and the at least the second network portion operated by at least a second network operator, a selected one of the first network portion and the at least the second network portion forming a home network portion associated with the mobile node, an improvement of apparatus for facilitating communication of the mobile node when roaming beyond the home network portion associated therewith,~~ said apparatus comprising:

a detector adapted to receive values of positional information associated with ~~the mobile~~ nodes during operation thereof to communicate by way of network portions in whose coverage areas that the mobile nodes, respectively, are positioned, ~~node, the positional information communicated by the mobile node to the network part at selected times when the mobile node communicates with the network part,~~ said detector configured to form ~~for detecting values of the positional information and for forming~~ indications of the values of the positional information;

an associator adapted ~~coupled to said detector~~ to receive the indications formed by said detector of the values of the positional information, said associator configured to associate positioning of each of the mobile nodes with corresponding ~~for associating positioning of the mobile node together with one of the first and at least second network portions, respectively, through which communications are effectuated,~~ thereby to identify roaming relationships between each of the mobile nodes and the corresponding network portions when the mobile nodes are roaming ~~to which the~~

~~positional information is communicated, thereby to indicate, if the one of the network portions, with which the positioning information indicates the mobile node to be associated, is other than the home network portion; and~~

a storage element coupled to said associator, said storage element configured to store ~~for storing~~ values representative of associations formed by said associator, the values together forming a roaming network table indicating the roaming relationships ~~with which of the network portions that the mobile node is capable of communicating.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein each ~~the~~ mobile node has an identifier associated therewith and wherein said detector is further adapted to receive the identifier and for detecting values thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the radio communication system comprises a cellular radio communication system that provides for GPRS (General Packet Radio Service) and wherein the identifier associated with each ~~the~~ mobile node comprises at least a portion of an IMSI (International Mobile Subscriber Identity) number.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the IMSI number includes a Mobile Network Code (MNC) and wherein the at least the portion of the IMSI number of which said detector detects the values comprises the Mobile Network Code, the Mobile Network Code identifying a ~~the~~ home network portion associated with each ~~the~~ mobile node, the home network portion a network portion of the multiple network portions.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the IMSI number includes a Mobile Country Code (MCC) and wherein the at least the portion of the IMSI number of which said detector detects the values comprises the Mobile Country Code.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein each ~~the~~ mobile node registers with a network portion of the multiple network portions ~~the network part~~ at selected times and wherein the positional information detected by said detector is communicated by each ~~the~~ mobile node pursuant to registration with the network part.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein communications of each ~~the~~ mobile node are formatted into messages, the messages having header parts and wherein the positional information detected by said detector is embodied in the header parts of the messages.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the roaming network table further includes an indication of a time at which the values representative of the associations are stored at said storage element.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising a roaming table entry deleter coupled to said storage element coupled to said storage element, said roaming table entry deleter selectably operable to delete selected values of the roaming entry table maintained at said storage element.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein said roaming table entry deleter deletes values of the roaming network entry table stored thereat for longer than a selected time period.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~In a method of communicating in a~~ radio communication system having multiple network portions ~~at least a first mobile node operable to communicate with a network part, the network part having a first network portion and at least a second network portion, the first network portion operated by a first network operator and the at least the second network portion operated by at least a second network operator, a selected one of the first network portion and the at least the second network portion forming a home network portion associated with the mobile node, an improvement of a method for facilitating communication of the mobile node when roaming beyond the home network portion associated therewith, said method comprising the operations of:~~

detecting values of positional information, the positional information associated with ~~the mobile~~ nodes ~~node~~ and communicated by the mobile nodes ~~by way of network portions in whose coverage areas that the mobile nodes, respectively, are positioned~~ ~~node to the network part at selected times when the mobile node communicates with the network part;~~

associating positioning of each of the mobile nodes with corresponding network portions, respectively, through which communications are effectuated, thereby to identify roaming relationships between each of the mobile nodes and the corresponding network portions ~~when the mobile nodes are roaming~~ ~~the mobile node together with one of the first and at least second network portions, respectively, to which the positional information is communicated, thereby to indicate, if the one of the network portions with~~

~~which the positioning information indicates the mobile node to be associated, is other than the home network portion; and~~

~~forming a roaming network table indicating the roaming relationships with which of the network portions that the mobile node is capable of communicating responsive to associations formed during said operation of associating.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein said operation of detecting further comprises detecting values that identify each ~~the~~ mobile node.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the radio communication system comprises a cellular radio communication system that provides for GPRS (General Packet Radio Service) and wherein the values that identify each ~~the~~ mobile node during said operation of detecting comprise at least a portion of an IMSI (International Mobile Subscriber Identity) number.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the at least the portion of the IMSI number comprises a mobile network code, the mobile network code identifying a ~~the~~ home network portion associated with each ~~the~~ mobile node, the home network portion a network portion of the multiple network portions.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the at least the portion of the IMSI number comprises a mobile country code.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said operation of forming the roaming table further comprises identifying times at which values are entered thereat.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 further comprising the operations of accessing the roaming network table and determining the roaming relationships indicated therein ~~in which of the first and at least second network portions that the mobile node, associated with the home network portion, can communicate when roaming beyond the home network portion.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~19~~13 further comprising the operation of deleting values out of the roaming network table after a selected time.